United Nations ST/IC/2000/30

Secretariat

27 April 2000

Information circular*

To: Members of the staff

From: The Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources Management

Subject: **2000 competitive examination for French-language teachers**

1. A competitive examination for the recruitment of French-language teachers will be held on 23 June 2000 at United Nations Headquarters in New York and at the United Nations Office at Geneva. The purpose of this examination is to establish a roster from which future vacancies for French-language teachers in the French programme of the Staff Development and Learning Service of the Office of Human Resources Management at Headquarters and the Examinations and Tests Section at Geneva will be filled.

2. Full-time French teachers with the United Nations must teach the specified number of course hours per week as determined by the duty station concerned and devote a specified number of work hours to course preparation and correcting students' work. In addition, each full-time French teacher is assigned tasks such as drafting and updating of teaching materials and examinations, preparation of examinations, design of specialized courses and communication courses, consultations with students, and participation in meetings and seminars. At Headquarters, full-time French teachers participate in the preparation, administration and correction of the United Nations Language Proficiency Examination as part of their assigned tasks. The teacher is expected to use word-processing and database software in performing these duties. The teacher is also expected to carry out other training activities whenever called upon to do so.

3. The examination is open to all staff members of the Secretariat, including those in the General Service and related categories, working at Headquarters and to other qualified persons, including French teachers who are working part-time at Headquarters. Part-time French teachers are considered external candidates. Staff members from subsidiary organs of the United Nations and those working for a United Nations body, fund or specific programme or assigned to special missions are also considered external candidates for the purpose of this examination.

4. Staff members of the Secretariat applying for the examination must:

(a) Have French as their main language;[1]

(b) Hold an advanced university degree (Masters) in applied linguistics, linguistics, language teaching, languages or a similar field;

(c) Have at least five years' recent and consecutive experience within the last eight years teaching French as a second or foreign language to adults, preferably in a professional setting;

(d) Have word-processing skills.

Experience using video, computers and/or multimedia to teach French is highly desirable. Knowledge of other official languages is desirable. The Board of

* Expiration date of the present circular: 31 December 2000.

00-40849 (E) 080500

Examiners, appointed by the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources Management, requires that candidates' claims to knowledge of official languages must be supported by relevant documentation in their official status files. Staff members who have been enrolled in a United Nations language course must have passed the United Nations language proficiency examination in that language. Candidates who have not attended United Nations language courses must substantiate their claims to knowledge of those languages by attaching to their application a photocopy (not the original) of either a diploma or a certificate from a language school or a brief explanation of how they acquired knowledge of those languages.

5. All applications will be reviewed by the Board of Examiners. All applicants will be notified of the Board's decision in respect of their application. **The Board's decisions are final.**

6. The written examination consists of the following two parts:

Part 1. Essay questions on modern language teaching methodology, communication skills and writing skills training, preparation of teaching material, and the use of technology for language teaching (2 hours). It should be noted that this paper is eliminatory. Only candidates who are successful in part 1 will have their other papers marked;

Part 2.

A. Knowledge of French language syntax and usage (30 minutes);

B. Several practical problems and a lesson plan (1 hour and 30 minutes).

The use of reference material is **not** permitted during the examination.

7. On the basis of the results obtained in the written examination, the Board of Examiners will invite selected candidates to the second phase of the examination, which will, in principle, take place six to eight weeks after the written papers and will consist of the candidates' teaching a class before the Board of Examiners. The Board of Examiners will review their observations and discuss them with each of the candidates. The Board will then interview each candidate to assess personal qualities. The interview is an integral part of the examination. Therefore, candidates who are invited to an interview **should not** assume that they will be offered a teaching assignment.

8. On the basis of the overall results of the examination, the Board will recommend to the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources Management the names of candidates for inclusion in the roster. Vacancies at Headquarters and the United Nations Office at Geneva will be filled in order from the roster as they occur at either duty station. All candidates admitted to the examination will be informed in writing of the Board's recommendation in respect of their candidature. The Board's recommendations are **not** subject to appeal. The Board does **not** release individual results.

9. Staff members who wish to apply for the examination should complete the attached form and submit it, **not later than** 26 May 2000 to:

2000 Competitive Examination for French-Language Teachers
Room DC1-200
Cluster VI, Operational Services Division
Office of Human Resources Management
United Nations Secretariat
New York, N.Y. 10017
Fax No.: (212) 963 3726

Notes

[1] "Main language" should be understood to be the language in which the candidate is best able to teach. Candidates' claims to French as their main language must be supported by relevant documentation in their official status files.

Application

2000 competitive examination for French-language teachers

Index No.[1] ☐☐☐☐☐☐

Last name ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ Category ☐☐ Level ☐☐

First name ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ Sex: Male ☐ Female ☐

Date of entry on duty: Month ☐☐ Year ☐☐☐☐

Type of contract: _____ Expiration date: _____

Department/office:[2] _____ Duty station: _____

Room No. _____ Extension _____ Fax No. _____

Internet: _____

Have you taken another United Nations competitive examination? Yes ☐ in 19 ☐☐ No ☐

If yes, which examination(s): _____

What is your mother tongue and main language?[3] ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

A. University degree or equivalent or post-secondary educational qualifications[4]

Name of institution, place and country	*Language of instruction*	*Attended from/to*		*Degree[4] or equivalent*	*Main field of study*
		Month/year	*Month/year*		

B. Describe work experience (giving dates and duration) in French language teaching, course development, and communication skills training

C. Indicate your experience (if any) in working with multimedia, video and/or computer-assisted language learning technology

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_____

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_____

_____

_____

D. Knowledge of other languages[5]

Language(s)	*United Nations language programme (indicate highest level and date)*	*Courses taken at other institutions (name and location)*

E. Indicate your ability in each of the languages mentioned above

Language	*Read*		*Understand*		*Speak*		*Write*	
	Easily	*Not easily*	*Easily*	*Not easily*	*Fluently*	*Not fluently*	*Easily*	*Not easily*

I certify that the information I have provided above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Notes

[1] Appears normally on your monthly salary statement and personnel action (P-5) forms. If not, please contact your Executive Officer to obtain your number.

[2] Please indicate department/office, e.g., Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services, Economic Commission for Europe, United Nations Office at Geneva, United Nations Office at Vienna or other (specify).

[3] "Main language" should be understood to be the language in which the candidate is best able to teach. Candidates' claims to French as their main language must be supported by relevant documentation in their official status files.

[4] Give exact name and title in original language. Do not translate or equate. Copies of university degrees must be attached.

[5] In accordance with paragraph 4 of the present circular, candidates claiming knowledge of other official languages of the United Nations must submit relevant documentation to substantiate their claims.